

In Memoriam. 10

F. LE GROS CLARK, F.R.C.S., F.R.S.



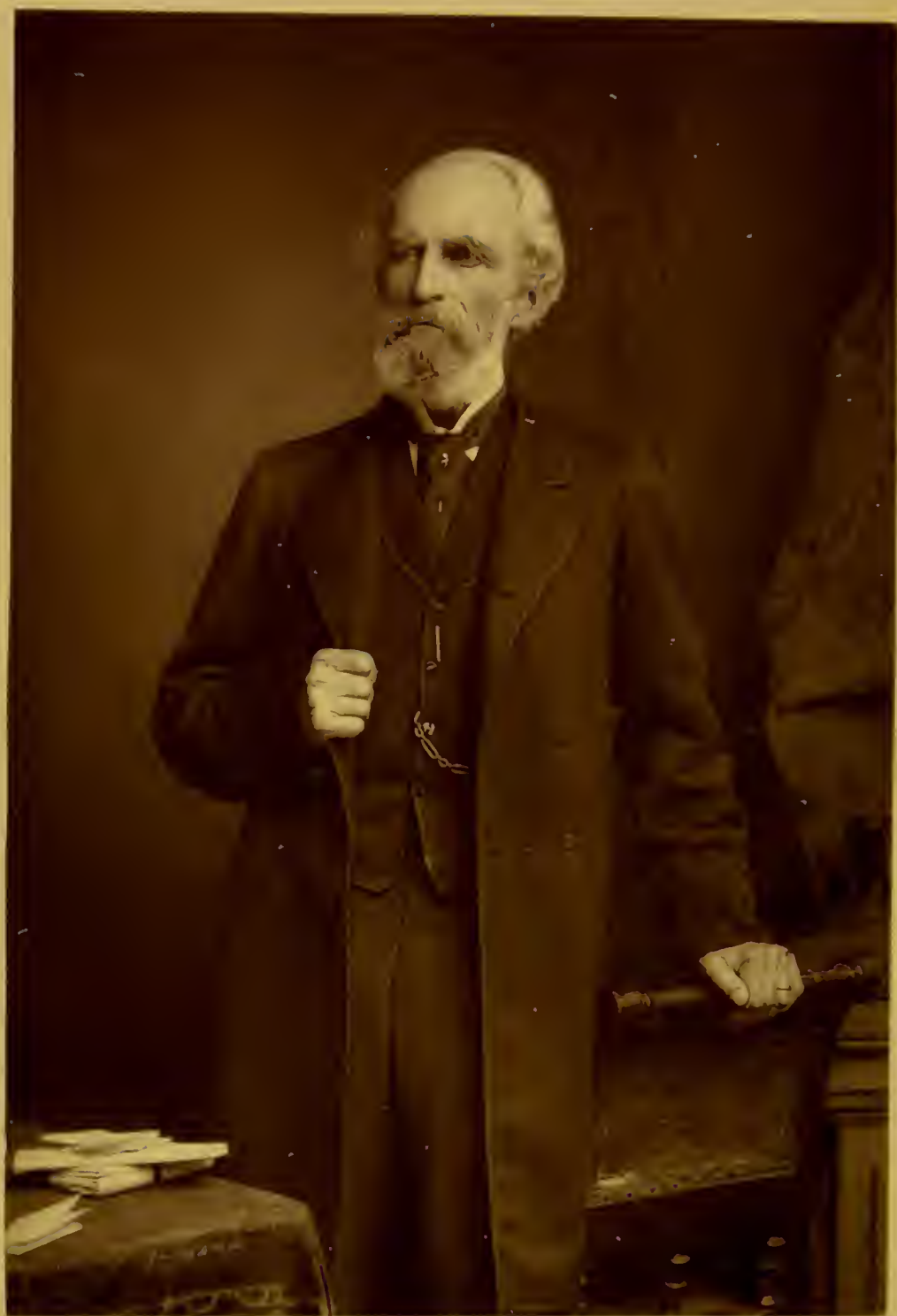
“Such a man
Might be a copy to these younger times.”

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In Memoriam.

F. LE GROS CLARK, F.R.C.S., F.R.S.

“Non omnis moriar, multaque pars mei.
Vitabit Libitinam.”

THERE has passed away from our midst one who will certainly not die in the memory of his old pupils and friends; one who, more than any other teacher of our time, has attached himself to our school; one whose monument has essentially been raised in the affectionate memory of students, and whose influence will not pass away with him.

As one who has been closely connected with him as pupil, colleague, and friend, I feel it indeed an honour to have been asked to contribute some short account of him, his life, his work, his influence and character. But I recognise the difficulty of my task, for mine has been no common loss.

A STRIKING FACE AND FIGURE.

By the likeness of him given in the accompanying plate, friends will recognise him, it is to be hoped, as they have best known him. The photograph was taken by Bassano, of Old Bond Street, and represents him about the year 1887. Several likenesses, taken at other times, show very little change in the character of the face or figure. Even a sketch taken in 1847, representing him as a handsome man in the magnificent coat collar of the time, is unmistakeable, and a marble bust of about 1865 is severely characteristic, though not showing his more recent beard and moustache.

His high and intellectual forehead indicated an intensity

of feeling which he peculiarly possessed ; heavy eyebrows overhung his keen and deep-set eyes, making an impressive, dignified, kindly, yet severe countenance. The austerity of this sometimes rather overawed a candidate at examinations, but he was really very tender-hearted, and often acted as the examinee's best friend when he least thought it.

Few men possessed so commanding an appearance. Tall, spare, erect, and square shouldered, he possessed the frame of a classical athlete, and looked as if he could deliver well from the left shoulder, and from his earliest times was foremost in active outdoor exercises. Of these, riding, rowing, and boxing were, I believe, his favourite pastimes. Until a short time before his death he could be seen almost daily on horseback. He was fearless as a rider, but gentle with his steed, enjoying the meet of the hounds as much as the horse did itself. He was very fond of all domestic animals; and it is not surprising that they were quick to discover it and become attached to him.

MUSCLES FOR USE AND STUDY.

A few who knew him intimately may perhaps remember that his muscular development was extraordinary—not from its massiveness, but from its clear definition, and this may in part account for his fondness of the study of muscular action. Separate processes and digitations of muscles could be brought into prominent relief by him at will, and he enjoyed studying the action of these. His most important paper, read before the Royal Society, "On the Actions of Muscles in Respiration," was the furthest development of his study in this direction. Up to a very late period of his life he remained one of the most active men I have ever known. He would think nothing of vaulting a gate, or undertaking any manual labour fit only for a young man.

One of the most noticeable peculiarities in his aspect was the presence of a most strongly-developed "Arcus Senilis," present from the earliest times that I knew him, and this with markedly rigid arteries on the temple and in the pulse, indicated a possible source of trouble in his vascular system. But this never became more pronounced than it was at first.

SOME LANDMARKS IN A LONG LIFE.

He was one of a large family, the youngest of nine, and he outlived them all. If it be true that children of large families have made more mark in the world than those of small, perhaps the discipline necessary in large families, and the mutual help in after life, may help to account for this.

Born in Mincing Lane in 1811, the son of a resident city merchant—for in those days merchants resided in the city more than now—his earliest school-life of importance was at Iron Acton in Gloucestershire, where he was, with two of his brothers, under the vicar.

A STRANGE REVISIT.

A very curious circumstance happened with regard to this in after-life. Just fifty years after being at school there, he went down with his friend Sir James Paget and stopped in the same place—in the same house where he had been at school. The place had not changed. Everything was so much in the same condition as when he last saw it that he was able to direct enquirers to find their way to certain parts of the woods and neighbourhood, and to some caves not generally known. An old monument in the church was that of a Knight Templar, and Mr. Le Gros Clark asked if the spurs to the figure had been found, for they were apparently missing from the monument. He said that as a boy he had thrown them up on the top of the stone canopy. The verger, by means of a ladder, found them there amongst piles of dust and rubbish. Folks here were not very enterprising and church cleaning not too thorough. He was almost startled at finding the parish clerk as unchanged as the place itself—apparently the same old white-headed man as he had known. Truth to tell, he was the son of the parish clerk of fifty years before. Some of the very old folk came out to greet “Master Clark” and renew old times. Truly Iron Acton must be somewhat antique, and suitable for a visit from Rip Van Winkle. It would be interesting to compare the experience of anyone else as to

revisiting the scenes of their boyhood and finding all unchanged after fifty years.

CLIMBING THE PROFESSIONAL LADDER.

He entered as a student at St. Thomas's Hospital in 1827, two years after the separation of the Borough hospitals. Those were the days of hospital apprenticeships—almost a necessary condition for ultimate promotion on the staff. Mr. Travers, the Senior Surgeon, was an old friend of his father's, and he was apprenticed to him, though at one time there was a question about his being apprenticed to Mr. (afterwards Sir Benjamin) Brodie. Le Gros Clark's admiration for his old master, Travers, as a surgeon and a philosophical writer remained unabated to the end. He seems to have been a successful student, for he obtained the Cheselden Medal in 1830, and was appointed Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy in the same year. Promotion, however, was slow in those days, for it was not until nine years afterwards (1839) that he became Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology combined. A curious custom existed at that time, for before his certificate as Lecturer was recognised by the College, he was required to appear before the Council and to deliver two lectures before them—one on Anatomy and Physiology and the other on Surgery, the subjects being given with two hours for preparation. This rule soon became obsolete.

It was not till 1843, or thirteen years from the time of his becoming Demonstrator, that he was appointed Assistant Surgeon on Mr. Tyrrell's sudden death. After becoming Demonstrator, he used to spend part of his summer session abroad in the medical schools, and in this way visited Paris, Berlin, Göttingen and Edinburgh; previous to this he had attended the Anatomical School in Dublin, where he resided with Harrison, a genial man, the well-known author of a 'Treatise on the Anatomy of the Arteries.'

At Paris, Roux was the great attraction, and Le Gros Clark retained a great admiration for him during the rest of his life.

Germany, in those days, was not so attractive as now for students. But Graefe, Dieffenbach, and the elder Langen-

beck were some of the great stars. Müller of Berlin was another, and Dupuytren in Paris was as attractive as a great bear could be. Yet Le Gros Clark was an admirer of his work, and afterwards translated one of his books for the Sydenham Society.

After serving as Assistant Surgeon ten years he became full Surgeon in 1853, and retained this office for twenty years. Increasing engagements induced him to resign the Chair of Anatomy in 1854, but he retained the lectures on Regional and Surgical Anatomy, while Mr. Rainey was appointed to lecture on Descriptive Anatomy. When Mr. South resigned the Chair of Surgery, Mr. Le Gros Clark succeeded him, and retained this office until he retired from the hospital in 1873.

In 1864 he was elected a member of the Council of the College of Surgeons and served on the different committees. He was Hunterian Professor of Surgery and Pathology for the years 1867 and 1868 when the lectures he then delivered were upon "Surgical Diagnosis, especially in reference to Visceral Lesions."

In 1872 he was appointed Vice-President, and in 1874 President of the Royal College of Surgeons, giving the Hunterian Oration in 1875, whilst President, on February 13th, the 48th anniversary of his apprenticeship to the College. This Oration was philosophical and full of thought, and was referred to in the recent important Oration by Mr. Bryant on Hunter's Centenary.

After acting as Examiner in Surgery at the College of Physicians for two years and the University of London for five years, he was appointed a member of the Court of Examiners of the College of Surgeons in 1870, and re-appointed in 1875. He retired at the expiration of the ten years, and during the first half of this, examined in anatomy and physiology, as well as in surgery; but the subjects were separated in 1875, and he then only examined in surgery.

In 1872 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, a distinction of which he remained justly proud all his life, and of which he recognised fully the responsibility. He contributed a paper to the 'Transactions' on "The Mechanism

of Respiration," a paper well worth careful study, as it goes into the use of muscles not previously credited with the action he ascribes to them. This paper is reprinted in his collection of 'Miscellaneous Essays,' which appeared in the year 1890, two years before his death.

For some years he was Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital and to the London Female Penitentiary. He was also Consulting Surgeon to the Surrey County Hospital and to the Great Northern Hospital. But an appointment which threw him more into contact with the leading surgical and medical workers of the day was that of Surgical Secretary to the Medico-Chirurgical Society, where Dr. Cursham and Dr. Baly were successively his medical colleagues.

CHANGES OF RESIDENCE.

In his early days Spring Gardens formed an important centre for surgical celebrities, and he at first resided here, near to Bransby Cooper and Mr. Partridge. Bransby Cooper was specially kind to him, and told him many tales of his uncle, Sir Astley Cooper; but he was a rough and uncultivated, though genial man, and did not impress Le Gros Clark as a scientific surgeon. It was the wish of the authorities at the Hospital that Mr. Clark should have rooms nearer St. Thomas's, and he moved to St. Thomas's Street, and had his country house at Lee. In 1871, however, he purchased a property near Sevenoaks, and many old and present students will be able to recall him in his country house there, surrounded by beautiful scenery and the comforts of a charming home. Here he lived and here he died, holding still his office of Consulting Surgeon to the South-Eastern line, which ran close to his house, and being called in frequently to the Cottage Hospital for his opinion as Consulting Surgeon. He was also, naturally, much consulted on surgical cases by local practitioners, and was always ready to give his advice to the poor. He was able from Sevenoaks to pay frequent visits to his old Hospital and to Salters' Hall, where he was twice Master at twenty years' interval, and an active member of the governing body.

As a Governor of St. Thomas's and Consulting Surgeon, he took an active interest in the progress of the School.

Many and long talks have we had over the changes and improvements in the working of the old School, and nothing that has happened in the course of the last twenty years has occurred without his watching it with keen interest, and very often helping in some form or other. For he was at one time a member of the House Committee, and always took an active interest in the progress of the School and Hospital. Even present students will recognise this in the frequency with which he came down to their meetings to deliver some address to the Physical Society, or to take the chair at the Religious Society, or to attend some of their conversaziones and concerts.

THREE INTRODUCTORY ADDRESSES AT ST. THOMAS'S.

He delivered the Introductory Address at the old Hospital in 1852, and had the honour of giving the first at the present Hospital in 1871, as has been graphically told by Dr. Leeson, in the '*St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette*.' Again, for the third and last time, in 1883, he gave the Address to an attentive audience of old and new students. We think no one else has done this three times. He was always present at the distribution of prizes and the old students' dinners, as many will remember, and perhaps all the more from most old students seeing him at one of these for the last time.

Of course, it was over the men of past times, some of whom have already retired from the Staff, and others who have become grey in professional work or public service, that his influence was most felt. The present generation is differently placed. "The old order changeth, giving place to new." Nothing can show the truth of this more than the introductory chapter he put in with his miscellaneous papers. Another paper he also wrote on "Sixty Years Ago," will be found in the first number of the '*St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette*,' and is full of interest.

A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE NEW.

Heroes of our profession of recent times, and extending into the past, were his personal friends and intimates. Of the older times I have already mentioned some, but he was

always pleased to talk of others like Sir John Forbes, Joseph Henry Green, Bowman, James Dixon the ophthalmic surgeon, still living, we are glad to say; and of his colleagues at the College he saw more of and enjoyed the society of particularly John Marshall, Busk, Luther Holden, and Sir William Savory, while of his hospital colleagues perhaps the most intimate have been Sir Risdon Bennett, Dr. Bristowe, Professor Stewart, and Mr. Denison, Dr. Clapton, and his old pupil Wale Hicks, now Bishop of Blomfontein.

HIS LAST ILLNESS.

In October, 1890, he was a good deal occupied with meetings, and writing and reading particular papers, and after a late evening in London, felt he had got a chill. This prostrated him, but he threw off the effects to a great extent, though not entirely. Then on November 27th came the wonderful wave of arctic weather, and it seemed to "get into his bones." He was now laid up with localised pleurisy and bronchitis, and being naturally a restive and easily-depressed patient, gave great anxiety to those around him. However, he improved, and insisted on going to Worthing, from which place he came back rather the worse for the visit. His old friends, Sir Risdon Bennett, Dr. Bristowe, and Dr. Clapton, came down and examined him at various times in the summer of 1891, and could find no organic disease. Influenza and its consequences did their work, though he was loth to confess it. But the works were wearing out. In the spring of 1892 he suffered acutely from renal colic, and was carefully attended by Dr. Blomfield, with occasional consultations with Dr. Ord, his old friend and pupil. But he became weaker and weaker, and passed away on July 19th, 1892, after a short last illness. He was buried at Riverhead, where he had attended the church for the last twenty years or more.

A PROFESSIONAL STUDY OF A HOSPITAL SURGEON AND TEACHER.

Considering him now as a hospital surgeon, it would be difficult to find anyone who would rank higher in modern days. His opinion was always highly estimated, and I have

known him right where others of equal standing were wrong. He prided himself justly upon his "tactus eruditus," and could distinguish deep fluctuation when others failed. His judgment also was that of a calm, scientific mind, leaning rather to what was within proof and certainty, not being swayed by the opinions of others, though he was always attentive to their criticisms.

One who has been associated with him intimately has written of him as follows ('Lancet,' October 22nd, 1892): "He was not only a distinguished surgeon, but a very wise and safe one. His sympathies were always with the higher and nobler aims, and he strove to raise the thought and tone of his profession. To regard surgery as a mere art he believed to be a very inadequate expression. Scientific surgery was his aim, and his thought and work were ever in this direction; he was singularly conscientious." But it would almost make those who really knew him smile to be told he was "wanting in decision, and was apt to hesitate and qualify," and that this was the weak point of his character. He was really considerate to the opinions of others, and listened to what men of much smaller experience might have to say, but his own opinion was formed and acted upon without hesitation.

It has been urged by some that he cannot be looked upon as a successful man. But surely this must depend upon our definition of success. It is not claimed for him that he had a large consulting practice, nor that he was run after as a surgical star, but he gained the highest possible position in the profession, was always looked up to as one of the most eminent men of his day, and never stooped to court popularity, but yet was universally popular when once well known. His opinion, was a thoroughly sound and wise one, and he was a truly conscientious man.

"He most lives

Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

As an operator he was careful, deliberate, and not wanting in boldness. It must be looked upon as an axiom that a good surgeon must be a good mechanic, as well as a good physician; and Mr. Clark's great taste for mechanics was supplemented by a keen appreciation of the importance

of medical knowledge. Patients did remarkably well in his hands, for he was extremely attentive to matters of detail, without interfering unnecessarily with Nature's own work. One of his favourite maxims was "Avoid meddlesome surgery."

As a teacher he was careful and thorough in all his lectures, and students never presumed or were inattentive, for they stood in too much awe of him, and knew that what he was teaching them was sound.

Few men surpassed him in making an appropriate and polished speech: he was listened to with attention, and he never outstayed the welcome of his hearers. As a lecturer his language was always to the point, and he did not indulge in quotations from authorities, but spoke from his own large experience. What was a feature of his teaching as regards the treatment of surgical cases was that he laid great stress upon general principles. This, we feel, was a great advantage to students, as they were thereby led to think for themselves, and not blindly adopt a teacher's "ipse dixit." He was fond of putting in Latin epigrams, and it will be within the memory of many that this was noticed in a skit upon the staff of lecturers and teachers which some amusing and clever student scored against us. The list of the hospital staff and lecturers hanging up as a card in the different parts of the school and hospital was enlivened by having some one expression written out as a peculiar property of each individual. Against Mr. Clark was written "Cæteris paribus," "Pari passu." He was amused at this, but the skit was not so severe as that on some of his colleagues.

It was as a clinical teacher in the wards rather than as a lecturer that he will be remembered by old students. In his visits to the wards he was followed by an attentive class, who learnt something more than mere surgery. They learnt how to treat patients with kindness, thoroughness, and courtesy. Human nature was ever a study for him, and patients were not looked on as mere cases. The human element in them was never lost sight of, and many an indirect lesson was thus learnt.

From his large experience he was fond of discussing

points of practical importance in the surgical treatment of disease and injury; and perhaps some of the most interesting observations he made to those going round with him were on some of the more difficult points of surgery connected with lithotomy and hernia, but these and other points he has touched upon in his paper in the Hospital Reports.

As a consultant his manner was too severe to please the practitioner generally, but he gained the trust and affection of both patient and practitioner, and this once gained was never lost.

WRITING SHOULD COME AFTER EXPERIENCE ONLY.

As a writer he was polished, and somewhat inclined to follow the style of the old school. He was not terse and epigrammatic, as is the tendency of the present day, and he was fond of a little philosophical "touching up" of his subject. His 'Miscellaneous Papers' were published in the year 1890 for distribution amongst his friends, and these were of general interest. But besides these he had already published, in 1836, a work on 'The Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System;' but this did not attract much notice, although Marshall Hall's views were here first enunciated. Two volumes of Dupuytren's 'Leçons Orales' were issued by the Sydenham Society in 1847 and 1853, translated by him; 'Lectures on Surgical Diagnosis of Visceral Injuries' were published in 1870; 'Outlines of Surgery,' of which a second edition appeared in 1872; Paley's 'Natural Theology,' edited for the S.P.C.K. in 1875; a little manual of Physiology for the same Society in 1883. Several articles were contributed by him on Anatomy and Physiology in the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana' about 1840; several papers in the 'Medico-Chirurgical Transactions,' critical articles in the 'British and Foreign Quarterly,' and a few contributions of cases to the medical papers. To the 'St. Thomas's Hospital Reports' he was a regular and valued contributor, and many of his papers now to be found in his collection of 'Miscellaneous Essays' have already appeared in these volumes or in the 'Journal of Anatomy and Physiology,' 'Transactions of the Royal Society,' or similar journals, where they could not easily be found.

But it was in his personal influence over those who came in contact with him rather than as a surgeon, consultant, or writer, that he will be remembered. It is, perhaps, the unexpressed ambition of most public men, and scientists in particular, to be able to feel that when they are gone their spirit may be able to say with Horace,

“Exegi monumentum ære perennius.”

To some it is permitted to leave their mark in some great work, literary or otherwise. Too often a great name is handed down to posterity attached to some absurd little mark or foramen, some unimportant instrument, or some little operation, or other triviality; and this applies particularly to anatomists and surgeons. There is an operation connected with Mr. Clark's name in some of the text-books, but it is certainly more in the influence for good which he has exerted over men that he will be remembered and his name revered.

A PERSONAL STUDY OF A BRAVE AND COURTEOUS GENTLEMAN.

In his habits and manner of life he was excessively simple. An early riser, an extremely temperate liver, fond of home life, yet ready to join in public functions which he enjoyed. In his dress he was always neat, and his commanding appearance made him always a prominent figure in any collection of men. In his courtliness of manner he recalled the pictures drawn of the gentleman of the old school, and there are those who have likened him to that masterpiece of Thackeray's, “Colonel Newcombe.” To my mind, however, there was more of the chivalrous character and commanding appearance of one of Sir Walter Scott's heroes, and this was his favourite type of character in reading. Scott was his favourite author, and in many respects he reminded one of the chivalrous, courtly, and rather fiery character of the gentlemen drawn not only by Scott but by authors of that period. He was a thoroughly courageous man, and it may be within the memory of some of the readers of this paper that when we were at London Bridge, and some exuberant and thoughtless students had

irritated the roughs outside by snowballing until no one dare show himself outside the gates, Le Gros Clark came down from the wards. The students ceased as he came by and doffed their hats to him. He ordered the porter to throw open the iron gate, and walked out among the crowd, knocking down the first man who tried to stop him. Thence he passed on unmolested on his way to London Bridge.

Another instance of his courage I personally recall, for he was bringing me a plaster cast of some surgical deformity, and came down from Waterloo Station by the back steps. At the bottom of these and at a bend in the narrow road came a runaway hansom cab without its driver. Le Gros Clark stepped into the road, his hands encumbered by my cast and an umbrella, and stopped the horse himself. The driver came running up shortly, and was so grateful to Le Gros Clark that he greatly wanted him to come back to the public-house where he had been refreshing when his horse took fright. This was an amusing feature of the incident, which Le Gros Clark then and afterwards laughed at, for not many would dare to offer him a "drink" at the public-house.

He was the soul of honour, and in any question of professional or other conduct in which honour was involved he was naturally referred to as an arbitrator. I know that in any case of doubt or difficulty others like myself would naturally appeal to him.

Attention to detail was one of his strong points in surgical and in other matters. This was carried to such an extent that his personal intervention sometimes prevented others from carrying out simple matters, and perhaps interfered with the development of independence of character in others.

There was in him a strong gouty tendency, which produced at times the most intense headache and nausea and consequent irritability. This was a great trial to him, and could always be seen in the anxious appearance of his countenance. But however irritable it caused him to be, there was in him such a strong sense of justice that he made ample amends afterwards to those whose feelings he might have tried by any sharp expression.

There are some elements of character found, I think, in most men who have attained eminence or success, and the absence of which certainly interferes with social progress. These were present in a very marked degree in Mr. Clark. Punctuality in appointments was the first of these. Promptness in answering letters and in attention to engagements or duties of any kind was the second of these characteristics. The third was perseverance or persistence in any work which he had undertaken. When he was engaged in any writing he carried about with him, in his pocket, slips of paper containing questions to be answered and points to be cleared. These papers I have a keen recollection of, as they often heralded most interesting discussions upon many knotty subjects; his persistence in working at a definite end to be gained, naturally resulted in his almost universally succeeding in his object.

SOME STRONG POINTS OF CHARACTER.

Order, Justice, Truth, and Purity were four of the cardinal virtues which were particularly marked in him. It is not to be wondered at that his tendencies politically were those of a steady and yet progressive Tory. His clear scientific mind balanced probabilities and arguments relating to events scientific, political and social; but he had a rooted objection to personally undertaking the daily recording of observations which characterise the statistical mind. I have never met with a clearer head for grasping general principles from a mass of details, and this was a peculiarly strong point of his scientific character, and made conversation with him on any subject interesting and valuable. Scientists of all kinds found in him a useful, trustworthy, and experienced critic.

Respect and obedience came naturally from those who revered him, and these were nearly all with whom he was brought in contact. And yet there was no personal work too great for him to do for a friend; no trouble too great for him to take to help them. Rich and poor in his neighbourhood speak of him as their greatest friend, for he entered at once into their difficulties, helped them by his

advice, and yet criticised any action which he thought should be found fault with. He was strong in his likes and in his dislikes, a warm friend, and an honourable opponent. He never hesitated to express his opinion freely, whether palatable or not, when the occasion required.

If one were asked what was the secret of his influence, which was certainly very wide-spread, I think that the keynote to it was "sympathy." Sympathy in distress and trials; sympathy in success, when he was careful to give a warning note of possible dangers; sympathy in happiness or sorrow, in work accomplished and work to be done. He entered into the feelings of younger men in their difficulties, for he had gone through probably the same in his long and large experience, and with older friends and those who appealed to him, he showed his strong religious feeling and trust in a merciful and Almighty Power. His wish to harmonise the truths of Christianity with the advances of science may be seen in his addresses to students and others upon this subject. But, as with others, his own life and character were perhaps the most important influence :

"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime."

He was well read in general literature, had thought deeply, had observed carefully, and had had a specially large experience of life, both professionally and otherwise. He was fond of the study of philosophy, and his mind was a philosophical one. He had never travelled out of his own country much, and was fondest of a quiet, retired country holiday, with a view of the sea, which carried away his thoughts into futurity as he gazed at the distant horizon. Besides thoughtful philosophical reading, he was fond of the study of history where it included stirring times, like those of the Peninsular War. These were times he had almost seen, and the heroes of that period were household words to him as a boy. These boyish influences last long and often colour a life, and no wonder then that he liked to review these times. Nobility of character and purity of motive with fervent loyalty to our profession and its highest aims were characteristic of him, and these principles were impressed upon others by his example rather than by any

preaching. Our profession was meant to be a noble and an ennobling one.

NOT LOST TO US.

In common with many others, but especially as perhaps his most intimate pupil, colleague, and friend, I feel that I have indeed lost a friend, and it is difficult to realise that he is gone. And I with satisfaction recall the frequent, almost daily intercourse with him, and one of his favourite quotations, that "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." But I feel that his influence still remains, both with others as well as with myself, and I close this incomplete notice by an apt quotation from the greatest of our English writers:—

" He did look far
Into the service of the time, and was
Discipled of the bravest;

* * * * *

Contempt nor bitterness
Were in his pride or sharpness; if they were,
His equal had awaked them; and his honour,
Clock to itself, knew the true minute when
Exemption bid him speak, and at this time
His tongue obeyed his hand; who were below him
He used as creatures of another place;
And bowed his eminent top to their low ranks,
Making them proud of his humility;
In their poor praise he humbled. Such a man
Might be a copy to these younger times."

W. W. W.

